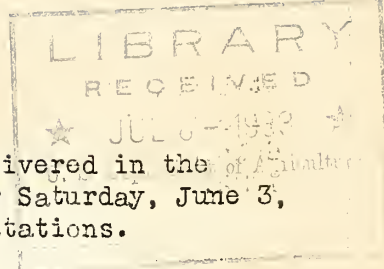


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DO 4-H CLUB MEMBERS GO TO COLLEGE?

A radio talk by Ray A. Turner, Extension Service, delivered in the National 4-H Club program of the National Farm and Home Hour Saturday, June 3, 1933, and broadcast by a network of 58 NBC associate radio stations.

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How do you do, 4-H club folks.

It is indeed a pleasure to talk with you on this National 4-H Club Radio Program on the topic "Do 4-H Club Members Go To College?"

All of us in extension work have observed that large numbers of 4-H club members go to college, but we wanted proof of our observations. So we decided to find the facts. Since the State college of agriculture supervises 4-H club work in each State, we made our study at those colleges. I am going to tell you first of the information which we obtained from the Central States, which are perhaps typical of other sections of the country.

For each of the past 5 years, I have made a survey to determine the number of former 4-H club members enrolled as students in the courses in agriculture and home economics at the State college of agriculture in the Central States. In the year of 1927-28, I found that 18.5 percent of all of the students in these two courses were former club members. Since then, 4-H club folks have entered the agricultural colleges in such increasingly large numbers that the survey for the present year shows that nearly 29 percent of the students in these two courses are former 4-H club members.

This year, Indiana ranks first, with 42 percent of all students in agriculture and home economics being in this classification. Kansas is second with 39 percent, Illinois third with 35 percent, and Nebraska fourth with 32 percent. These figures refer only to the courses in agriculture and home economics at the State colleges of agriculture. It is known that many club members are enrolled in other courses at these colleges and, also, that many of them attended other educational institutions.

Somewhat similar information has been obtained from each of the Western States. Oregon State College reports that 585 former 4-H club members are this year attending that college, and the University of California reports 516.

It is doubtless true that the awarding of scholarships has been a strong factor in encouraging many of the club members to enter the agricultural colleges. Other factors are that, through the extension service, they have become better acquainted with and more interested in these colleges, and that in their 4-H club work they have earned sufficient money to pay, either in whole or in part, their own college expenses.

And now may I tell you a story?

Charles and Clare Monroe, former 4-H calf club members from Hillsdale County, Michigan, are alternating in their attendance at college. First Charles spent two years at Albion College while Clare stayed home to help his father. Now Clare is taking his second year at Michigan State College while Charles is

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at home. Next year Charles plans to go to State, and Clare will stay home. As a result of their 4-H club work, these boys now own a herd of purebred Holsteins. They have bought all the purebred sires used on their farm since 1922. Stories similar to that one are to be found in nearly every State.

At 26 of the State colleges of agriculture, former 4-H club members have formed organizations among themselves for the purpose of maintaining and increasing their interest in club work, of developing leaders in this field, and of aiding in any campus activity relating to club work. These organizations are known by such names as The Collegiate 4-H Club, The Badger 4-H Club, The University 4-H Club, and the like.

Surely one measuring stick of the effectiveness of the 4-H clubs in fostering a desire for further educational training on the part of farm boys and girls is the number who enroll as students in our colleges and universities.

To these young people has come a recognition of the desirability of further training for their life's work. They realize that the man or woman who is prepared may exert the greater power in the affairs of the community or of the nation. They have played full well their part as 4-H club boys and girls and, in ever-increasing numbers, they are preparing themselves for the larger work ahead.